



**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q79568

Nobuhiro MIYAKAWA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/762,497

Group Art Unit: 2851

Confirmation No.: 5233

Examiner: unknown

Filed: January 23, 2004

For: IMAGE-FORMING APPARATUS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents, other than any U.S. patents and patent publications, is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: Q79568

Page 2

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:

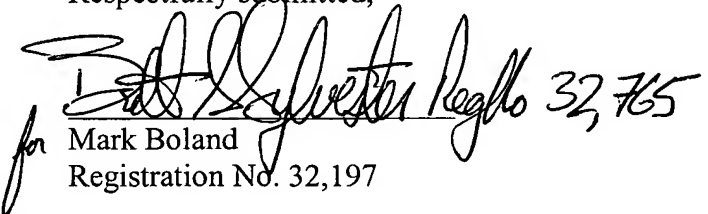
All of the listed documents are cited and/or discussed in the present specification.

Computer-generated English translations of all of the documents except for P. Hei. 3-62072A are submitted herewith. Still further, English language abstracts of all of the documents except for P. Hei. 9-62030A are submitted herewith.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

  
for Mark Boland  
Registration No. 32,197

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: June 28, 2004

Substitute for Form 1449 A &amp; B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

JUN 28 2004

*Complete if Known*

|   |                   |    |   |                    |            |                     |      |             |                  |                      |                   |          |      |               |         |                        |        |
|---|-------------------|----|---|--------------------|------------|---------------------|------|-------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------|------|---------------|---------|------------------------|--------|
| Sheet   | 1                 | of | 1 |                    |            |                     |      |             |                  |                      |                   |          |      |               |         |                        |        |
| <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Application Number</td> <td>10/762,497</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Confirmation Number</td> <td>5233</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date</td> <td>January 23, 2004</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Named Inventor</td> <td>Nobuhiro MIYAKAWA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Art Unit</td> <td>2851</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner Name</td> <td>Unknown</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney Docket Number</td> <td>Q79568</td> </tr> </table> |                   |    |   | Application Number | 10/762,497 | Confirmation Number | 5233 | Filing Date | January 23, 2004 | First Named Inventor | Nobuhiro MIYAKAWA | Art Unit | 2851 | Examiner Name | Unknown | Attorney Docket Number | Q79568 |
| Application Number  | 10/762,497        |    |   |                    |            |                     |      |             |                  |                      |                   |          |      |               |         |                        |        |
| Confirmation Number   | 5233              |    |   |                    |            |                     |      |             |                  |                      |                   |          |      |               |         |                        |        |
| Filing Date   | January 23, 2004  |    |   |                    |            |                     |      |             |                  |                      |                   |          |      |               |         |                        |        |
| First Named Inventor  | Nobuhiro MIYAKAWA |    |   |                    |            |                     |      |             |                  |                      |                   |          |      |               |         |                        |        |
| Art Unit  | 2851              |    |   |                    |            |                     |      |             |                  |                      |                   |          |      |               |         |                        |        |
| Examiner Name   | Unknown           |    |   |                    |            |                     |      |             |                  |                      |                   |          |      |               |         |                        |        |
| Attorney Docket Number  | Q79568            |    |   |                    |            |                     |      |             |                  |                      |                   |          |      |               |         |                        |        |

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number |                                      | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
|                    |                       | Number          | Kind Code <sup>2</sup><br>(if known) |                                |   |
|                    |                       | US              |                                      |                                |   |
|                    |                       | US              |                                      |                                |   |
|                    |                       | US              |                                      |                                |   |
|                    |                       | US              |                                      |                                |   |

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   |                     |                                      | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Translation <sup>6</sup> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
|                    |                       | Country Code <sup>3</sup> | Number <sup>4</sup> | Kind Code <sup>5</sup><br>(if known) |                                |   |                          |
|                    |                       | JP                        | 3-62072             | A                                    | 03-18-1991                     | Toshiba Corp                                    | Abstract                 |
|                    |                       | JP                        | 9-230714            | A                                    | 09-05-1997                     | Ricoh Co. Ltd                                   | Yes                      |
|                    |                       | JP                        | 6-194943            | A                                    | 07-15-1994                     | Canon Inc                                       | Yes                      |
|                    |                       | JP                        | 9-62030             | A                                    | 03-07-1997                     | Canon Inc                                       | Yes                      |
|                    |                       | JP                        | 11-218957           | A                                    | 08-10-1999                     | Dainippon Ink & Chem Inc                        | Yes                      |
|                    |                       | JP                        | 2002-131973         | A                                    | 05-09-2002                     | Minolta Co. Ltd                                 | Yes                      |
|                    |                       | JP                        | 8-248779            | A                                    | 09-27-1996                     | Fuji Xerox Co. Ltd                              | Yes                      |
|                    |                       | JP                        | 2000-206755         | A                                    | 07-28-2000                     | Konica Corp                                     | Yes                      |
|                    |                       | JP                        | 2002-31933          | A                                    | 01-31-2002                     | Konica Corp                                     | Yes                      |
|                    |                       | JP                        | 2002-116599         | A                                    | 04-19-2002                     | Seiko Epson Corp                                | Yes                      |
|                    |                       | JP                        | 2001-92208          | A                                    | 04-06-2001                     | Ricoh Co Ltd                                    | Yes                      |
|                    |                       | JP                        | 2002-174934         | A                                    | 06-21-2002                     | Ricoh Co. Ltd                                   | Yes                      |
|                    |                       | JP                        | 5-53482             | A                                    | 03-05-1993                     | Toshiba Corp and<br>Tokyo Electric Co. Ltd      | Yes                      |
|                    |                       | JP                        | 8-146652            | A                                    | 06-07-1996                     | Canon Inc                                       | Yes                      |
|                    |                       | JP                        | 11-249452           | A                                    | 09-17-1999                     | Minolta Co. Ltd                                 | Yes                      |
|                    |                       | JP                        | 2000-75541          | A                                    | 03-14-2000                     | Canon Inc                                       | Yes                      |
|                    |                       | JP                        | 10-207164           | A                                    | 08-07-1998                     | Ricoh Co. Ltd                                   | Yes                      |
|                    |                       | JP                        | 5-27548             | A                                    | 02-05-1993                     | Fujitsu Ltd.                                    | Yes                      |
|                    |                       | JP                        | 2002-278159         | A                                    | 09-27-2002                     | Ricoh Co. Ltd                                   | Yes                      |
|                    |                       | JP                        | 9-152791            | A                                    | 06-10-1997                     | Fuji Xerox Co. Ltd                              | Yes                      |
|                    |                       | JP                        | 2002-49190          | A                                    | 02-15-2002                     | Seiko Epson Corp                                | Yes                      |
|                    |                       | JP                        | 11-181311           | A                                    | 07-06-1999                     | Sumitomo Rubber Ind Ltd                         | Yes                      |

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | Translation <sup>6</sup> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------|
|                    |                       |  |                          |

|                    |  |                 |  |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| Examiner Signature |  | Date Considered |  |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.